

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is

- 5           1.     A lighter fluid composition, comprising:
- (a)    between approximately 0.5 percent weight and approximately 90  
                  percent weight of terpene;
- (b)    between approximately 0.5 percent weight and approximately 98.5  
                  percent weight of alcohol;
- 10          (c)    between approximately 0.5 percent weight and approximately 60  
                  percent weight of water;
- (d)    between approximately 0.05 percent weight and approximately 10  
                  percent weight of surfactant; and
- (e)    between approximately 0.1 percent weight and approximately 10  
15               percent weight of thickening agent.

2.     The lighter fluid composition of claim 1, wherein said terpene is  
selected from d-limonene and cold press orange oil.

3. The lighter fluid composition of claim 1, wherein said alcohol is selected from methanol and ethanol.

4. The lighter fluid composition of claim 1, wherein said surfactant  
5 comprises a non-ionic surfactant.

5. The lighter fluid composition of claim 1, wherein said thickening agent comprises a cross-linked polyacrylic acid.

10 6. The lighter fluid composition of claim 1, wherein said terpene comprises between approximately 10 percent weight and approximately 45 percent weight of said composition.

7. The lighter fluid composition of claim 1, wherein said alcohol  
15 comprises between approximately 20 percent weight and approximately 70 percent weight of said composition.

8. The lighter fluid composition of claim 1, wherein said water  
comprises between approximately 10 percent weight and approximately 40  
20 percent weight of said composition.

9. The lighter fluid composition of claim 1, wherein said alcohol is replaced at least partially with aliphatic hydrocarbon.

- 5           10. A lighter fluid composition, comprising:
- (a) between approximately 10 percent weight and approximately 45 percent weight of terpene;
  - (b) between approximately 20 percent weight and approximately 70 percent weight of short chain alcohol;
  - 10       (c) between approximately 10 percent weight and approximately 40 percent weight of water;
  - (d) between approximately 0.05 percent weight and approximately 5 percent weight of surfactant; and
  - (e) between approximately 1 percent weight and approximately 8 percent weight of thickening agent.
- 15

11. The lighter fluid composition of claim 10, wherein said terpene is selected from d-limonene and cold pressed orange oil.

12. The lighter fluid composition of claim 10, wherein said short chain alcohol comprises methanol.

13. The lighter fluid composition of claim 10, wherein said surfactant  
5 comprises a non-ionic surfactant.

14. The lighter fluid composition of claim 10, wherein said thickening agent comprises a cross-linked polyacrylic acid.

10 15. The lighter fluid composition of claim 10, wherein said terpene comprises between approximately 20 percent weight and approximately 35 percent weight of said composition.

16. The lighter fluid composition of claim 11, wherein said short chain  
15 alcohol comprises between approximately 30 percent weight and approximately 50 percent weight of said composition.

17. The lighter fluid composition of claim 10, wherein said water  
comprises between approximately 20 percent weight and approximately 30  
20 percent weight of said composition.

18. The lighter fluid composition of claim 10, wherein said short chain alcohol is replaced at least partially with aliphatic hydrocarbon.

- 5 19. A barbecue lighter fluid composition, comprising:
- (a) between approximately 25 percent weight and approximately 40 percent weight of citrus-derived terpene;
  - (b) between approximately 30 percent weight and approximately 50 percent weight of short chain alcohol;
  - 10 (c) between approximately 20 percent weight and approximately 30 percent weight of water;
  - (d) between approximately 0.4 percent weight and approximately 2 percent weight of surfactant; and
  - (e) between approximately 3 percent weight and approximately 6 percent weight of pH adjustable thickening agent.
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20. The barbecue lighter fluid composition of claim 19, wherein:

- (a) said terpene comprises orange oil, said orange oil comprising between approximately 30 percent weight and approximately 40 percent weight of said composition; and
- 20

- (b) said short chain alcohol comprises methanol, said methanol comprising between approximately 30 percent weight and approximately 40 percent weight of said composition.

5           21.    A method for igniting a barbecue in preparation for cooking food thereon, comprising:

- (a)    providing a lighter fluid comprising between approximately 25 percent weight and approximately 40 percent weight of terpene, between approximately 30 percent weight and approximately 50 percent weight of short chain alcohol, between approximately 20 percent weight and approximately 30 percent weight of water, between approximately 0.4 percent weight and approximately 2 percent weight of surfactant, and between approximately 3 percent weight and approximately 6 percent weight of thickening agent;
- 10           (b)    agitating said lighter fluid to form an emulsion;
- (c)    applying said lighter fluid to a bed of charcoals associated with said barbecue;
- (d)    igniting said lighter fluid; and
- (e)    allowing said lighter fluid to undergo substantially complete  
20           combustion.

22. The method of claim 22, wherein said providing said lighter fluid comprises:

- 5 (a) mixing said terpene, said short chain alcohol, and said surfactant together;
- (b) mixing said water and said thickening agent together;
- (c) adding said mixed said water and said thickening agent to said mixed said terpene, said short chain alcohol and said surfactant to form a lighter fluid mix; and
- 10 (d) pH adjusting said lighter fluid mix.